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Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 IGA-02 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 SS-15 PM-07 L-03 IO-13 PRS-01

COME-00 HEW-08 EUR-25 RSR-01 /167 W
---------- 081863
R 141045Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6957

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID SU
SUBJ: SUDANESE DROUGHT REQUEST

REF: KHARTOUM 1797

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. EMB HAS PROPOSED EXCHANGE OF LETTERS TO IMPLEMENT US ASSISTANCE FOR EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION OF COMMODITIES. GOS GIVING EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY TO US ACTION AS MEANS DEMONSTRATING ACTION ON SUPPLY PROBLEM AND PUTTING PRESSURE ON OTHER DONORS FOR AIRCRAFT. US IMAGE IN SUDAN HAS REGAINED FAVORABLE MOMENTUM ESTABLISHED BY SOUTHER EFFORT. GOS, HOWEVER, WILL BE TEMPTED DEVOTE ANY RESOURCES TO KHARTOUM RATHER THAN TO REGIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. IMPLEMENTATION US ASSISTANCE: FONMIN UNDERSEC ALLED CHARGE AUG 11 AND REQUESTED "GREEN LIGHT" TO IMPLEMENT US ASSISTANCE AS PER USG RESPONSE (REFTEL). CHARGE NOTED USG AUTHORITY ALREADY RECEIVED SUBJECT TO WORKING OUT APPROPRIATE LOCAL PROCEDURES FOR JOINT APPROVAL. OBEID REQUESTED EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS AND SAID GOS WISHED MOVE AHEAD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH BANK OF SUDAN GOVERNOR NIMR AND DEPMIN SUPPLY MUBARAK, WE ACCORDINGLY PROVIDED FONOFFICE
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AUG 13 WITH TEXTS OF TWO DRAFT LETTERS:

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A. CHARGE TO NIMR DRAFT REFERS NIMR-NOEL LETTER
OF FEB 20, 1973 CONCERNING ACCOUNT 02.12.16, IDENTIFIES
AAO AS EMB APPROVAL AUTHORITY FOR ASSISTANCE EXPEDI-
TURES, SPECIFICS THAT EXCHANGE OF LETTERS SUBSTITUTES
FOR COUNTERPART RELEASE AUTHORIZATION REITERATES
USE AND PURPOSE OF FUNDS AS CONTAINED IN EMB AUG
8 NOTE TO FONMIN AND REQUESTS NIMR ACCEPTANCE AND REPLY.

B. AAO TO DEPMINSUPPLY MUBARAK DRAFT REFERS EMB
AUG 8 NOT AND PROPOSES THAT FOR EACH TRANSACTION MUBARAK
SEND LETTER TO AAO CONTAINING (A) DESCRIPTION AND STORAGE
POINTS OF GOODS TO BE TRANSPORTED, (B) TERMINAL POINTS OF
DELIVERY, (C) APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF PEOPLE RECEIVING
SERVICE AND/OR COMMODITIES, (D) ACCOUNTABILITY PROCEDURE,
AND (E) DESIGNATION OF AUTHORIZING OFFICER FOR DISBURSEMENT.
AAO WRITTEN REPLY WOULD REPRESENT US JOINT APPROVAL FOR
EACH CASE. BASIC THRUST OF EMB LETTERS IS TO ENSURE
FUNDS ARE SPENT FOR JUSTIFIABLE PURPOSES.

3. GOS ACTION: CURRENT SERIOUS SHORTAGES KHARTOUM
(HUNDRES OF CARS STALLED--NO GAS--AND BREAD NON-
EXISTENT DUE TO RAIL WASHOUTS AND NEGLIGENCE INCLUDING
SOME MALICIOUS SABOTAGE) HAS LED GOS GIVE FULL PUBLICITY
(FRONG PAGE HEADLINES) TO USG RESPONSE. COMMENT
USUALLY CAST IN VAGUE TERMS OF US ASSISTANCE "... IN
PROVIDING AIRLIFT FOR EMERGENCY TRANSPORT". SUCH PUBLICITY,
OF COURSE, GIVES FALSE IMPRESSION THAT US PROVIDING
PLEANES RATHER THAN FINANCING, BUT GOS HOPES PLANES WILL
BE PROVIDED BY OTHERS (AND PROBABLY BE AMERICAN-MADE).
FONMIN UNDERSEC ALSO CALLED IN REPS UK, FRG AND JAPAN
ON AUG 11 AND MADE OFFICIAL APPEAL FOR AIRCRAFT AND OTHER
ASSISTANCE. (WE UNDERSTAND UK AND FRG STILL BEWILDERED
BY GOS REFERENCES TO "PREVIOUS CONTACTS" WHICH HAVE NOT
BEEN TRACEABLE IN BONN OR LONDON.)

4. AAO ALLOTTEE: POUCH CONFIRMATION FOR AAO AS ALLOTTEE FOR
FUNDS (STATE 151612) HAS BEEN RECEIVED.

5. DARFUR CONDITIONS: EFFECTIVE AUG 13, ALL SCHOOLS IN
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DARFUR HAVE BEEN CLOSED UNTIL OCTOBER IN VIEW OF THE
"ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES" WHICH INCLUDE "... PRE-
VENTING PUPILS FROM JOINING IN CULTIVATION, ROAD CLOSURE
DUE TO RAINS AND FLOODS, DAMAGED SCHOOL BUILDINGS,
LACK OF FOODSTUFFS, ANDINABILITY TRANSPORT TEACHERS".

6. COMMENT:

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A. FROM POLITICAL STANDPOINT, OUR RESPONSE AND
PUBLIC RECOGNITION AS BEING FIRST TO RENDER "ASSISTANCE"
IN A SITUATION WHICH HAS NOW ALSO BEGUN PINCH THE
KHARTOUM FOOT HAS REGAINED MOMEMTUM OF US IMAGE IN
SUDAN FOR HUMANITARIAN AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FIRST
ESTABLISHED BY SOUTHER EFFORT. ALTHOUGH OUR COMMITMENT
IN THIS CASE IS A DIFFERENT ORDER OF MAGNITUDE AND IS
ACTUALLY BEING SELF-FINANCED BY THE GOS, THE GOS FOR
ITS OWN REASONS--DEMONSTRATING ACTION ON SUPPLY PROBLEM
AND PUTTING PRESSURE ON OTHER DONORS FOR AIRCRAFT--IS
GIVING US TOP BILLING.

B. FROM ECONOMIC STANDPOINT, WE WILL HAVE TO BE
VIGILANT TO ENSURE FUNDS ARE SPEND FOR PURPOSES ENVISONED.
ONE TEMPTATION GOS WILL HAVE IS TO CONCENTRATE ON
KHARTOUM'S IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS RATHER THAN EMELIORATE
SITUATION IN WEST AND SOUTH WHICH WAS BASIS ORIGINAL
REQUEST AND OUR RESPONSE. FRITTS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 14 AUG 1973
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
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TAGS: EAID, SU
To: STATE
Type: TE
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